**End of World War II**

**Timeline**

June 6, 1944: [D-Day](http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005158): Allied forces invade Normandy, France.

June 22, 1944: The Soviets launch an offensive in eastern Belorussia (Belarus).

July 25, 1944: Anglo-American forces break out of Normandy.

August 1, 1944: Warsaw Polish uprising begins.

August 15, 1944: Allied forces land in southern France.

August 25, 1944: Liberation of Paris.

December 16, 1944: [Battle of the Bulge.](http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10006178)

January 12, 1945: Soviet winter offensive.

January 18, 1945: [Death march](http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005162) of nearly 60,000 prisoners from the Auschwitz camp system in southern Poland.

January 25, 1945: Death march of nearly 50,000 prisoners from the [Stutthof](http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005197) camp system in northern Poland.

January 27, 1945: Soviet troops liberate the [Auschwitz](http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10007259) camp complex.

March 7, 1945: US troops cross the Rhine River at [Remagen.](http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10006180)

April 16, 1945: The Soviets launch their final offensive, encircling Berlin.

April 29, 1945: American forces [liberate](http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005131) the [Dachau](http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005214) concentration camp.

April 30, 1945: Adolf Hitler commits suicide.

May 7, 1945: Germany surrenders to the western Allies.

May 9, 1945: Germany surrenders to the Soviets.

**Outcomes**

~**Germany** is divided into 4 occupied zones by the Allies (US, France, Great Britain, USSR)

~**Japan** was temporarily placed under US military rule, prominent military leaders were tried and convicted of war crimes; Emperor Horohito allowed to keep his position

~**England** was a mess and dependent upon loans from the US to recover its economy; compelled to dismantle colonial empire

~**France** was compelled to dismantle empire (Algeria and Vietnam were roughest); retribution taken on collaborators

**~US and Soviet Union were the clear superpowers now (sets up the Cold War)**

**~United Nations** established in Oct. of 1945

**~Technological advancements**- radar developed by the British (lead to television); atomic bombs meant the development of nuclear power

Death toll (civilian and military by country):

USSR- 25.6 million

China- 11.3 million

Germany- 7.1 million

Poland- 6.9 million

Japan- 1.8 million

France 810,000

Italy 410,000

Great Britain 388,000

USA 295,000

WORLDWIDE- About 62 million people perished during World War II, approximately 11 million in Hitler’s genocide (six million Jews)

Source: <http://secondworldwar.co.uk/index.php/fatalities>

**WHAT DO WE DO NOW WITH THE NAZIS?**